

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A sliding screen door comprising:

a frame body;

an operating doorframe mounted to the frame body for movement in a horizontal direction;

a pleated screen having vertical pleats, wherein one end of the screen is fixed to an elongated endplate at a vertical frame member of the frame body ~~via an elongated endplate~~ and another end of the screen is attached to the operating doorframe, whereby the screen is freely movable in the frame body to be fully closed by movement of the operating doorframe away from the vertical frame member;

a wire having one end fixed to a wire adjusting mechanism at the vertical frame member ~~via a wire adjusting mechanism~~ and being horizontally inserted into the screen, and wherein the wire extends into the operating doorframe and a guide member is provided in the operating doorframe to guide the wire ~~is guided~~ downward therein ~~via a guide member provided in the operating doorframe~~;

a sinker mounted to an end of the wire in the operating doorframe and freely vertically movable in the operating doorframe, whereby the weight of the sinker stretches the wire; and

a spring member in the operating doorframe and surrounding the wire, the spring member being positioned between the sinker and a contacting portion of the operating doorframe,

wherein the wire adjusting mechanism is adjustably mounted to the vertical frame member, and wherein the mounting position of the wire adjusting mechanism on the vertical frame member is adjusted such that the spring member is compressed between the sinker and the contacting portion when the screen is fully closed, whereby a resilient expansion force of the spring applies a stretching force to the wire,

wherein the wire adjusting mechanism comprises a guide part having a first wire connection portion and attached to the vertical frame member, and an adjusting member having a second wire connection portion and capable of sliding along a longitudinal direction of the vertical frame member and being attached to the vertical frame member, wherein the first and second wire connecting portions are longitudinally bent in opposite directions to hook the wire, and wherein the wire is passed through the guide part, bent by the guide part to extend toward the adjusting member in the longitudinal direction of the vertical frame member, and fixed to the first or second wire connection portion of one of the guide part and the adjusting member,

wherein the vertical frame member comprises a longitudinal sliding groove slidably housing the guide part and the adjusting member, and opening in a direction facing the screen, and wherein the elongated endplate of the screen is detachably mounted to the vertical frame member so as to cover the guide part and the adjusting member in the sliding groove.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The sliding screen door according to Claim 9, wherein the adjusting member is an approximately plate-shaped member comprising a first ~~wire connecting portion and~~ a first screw hole, further comprising a first fixing screw in the first screw hole and detachably fixing ~~wherein the adjusting member is detachably fixed to~~ the sliding groove ~~via a first fixing screw in the first screw hole~~, wherein the first fixing screw is screwed from an opening side of the sliding groove to the first screw hole, and

wherein the guide part is an approximately plate-shaped member fixed to the sliding groove;
~~comprising a guide hole penetrating the guide part for the wire to be passed through, and a~~
~~second wire connecting portion.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The sliding door according to claim 10, wherein the sliding groove in the vertical frame member has an approximately C-shaped section, comprising projecting walls inwardly protruding at a pair of groove side walls of the sliding groove, and

~~wherein the adjusting member is detachably fixed to the sliding groove by~~
~~sandwiching the projecting walls between the adjusting member and a first nut~~ cooperate to
sandwich the projecting walls therebetween, thereby detachably fixing the adjusting member
to the sliding groove, where the first fixing screw is screwed through the first screw hole of the adjusting member.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The sliding door according to claim 10, wherein the guide part comprises a second screw hole where a second fixing screw for detachably fixing the guide part to the sliding groove is screwed, and

wherein the second fixing screw is screwed from an opening side of the sliding groove to the second screw hole.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The sliding door according to claim 12, wherein the sliding groove in the vertical frame member has an approximately C-shaped section, comprising projecting walls inwardly protruding at a pair of groove side walls of the sliding groove, and

wherein the ~~adjusting member is detachably fixed to the sliding groove by sandwiching the projecting walls between the~~ adjusting member and a first nut cooperate to sandwich the projecting walls therebetween, thereby detachably fixing the adjusting member to the sliding groove, where the first fixing screw is screwed through the first screw hole of the adjusting member.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The sliding screen door according to claim 9, further comprising a latching mechanism installed in the frame body, wherein the latching mechanism can automatically latch with a receiving hole formed in the operating doorframe when the operating doorframe is moved to the closing position, and a latched state of the latching mechanism is released by raising an operating member against the force of gravity.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The sliding screen door according to claim 14, wherein the latching mechanism comprises:

- a sliding piece vertically slidable within a defined range in the frame body;
- a latch main body connected to the sliding piece; and
- a position adjusting device for adjusting a lower position of the latch main body.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The sliding screen door according to claim 15, wherein the vertical frame member comprises a pair of side walls extending in a longitudinal direction and having a notched portion at a position wherein the latching mechanism is installed, and a connecting wall connecting the pair of the side walls and comprising a sliding groove extending in a longitudinal direction, wherein the sliding piece comprises a hooking portion slidably inserted into the sliding groove and latched with a receiving hole formed in

the operating doorframe, and wherein the latch main body comprises [[an]] said operating member outwardly protruding from the notched portion of the side walls.

Claim 17 (New): The sliding screen door according to claim 9, wherein the sliding groove is formed as an approximately C-shaped section by an opposing pair of groove side walls extending in a longitudinal direction, and by a groove bottom wall extending in a longitudinal direction and provided between the pair of groove side walls,

wherein the pair of groove side walls has an opposing pair of projecting walls projecting toward an inside of the sliding groove and extending in the longitudinal direction of the vertical frame member, wherein the guide part is detachably mounted to the projecting walls, and the adjusting member is detachably and slidably mounted to the projecting walls,

and wherein the wire, having been bent by the guide part to extend toward the adjusting member in the longitudinal direction of the vertical frame member, passes through a space between the projecting walls and the groove bottom wall.

Claim 18 (New): The sliding screen door according to claim 9, further comprising a pair of opposing concave grooves extending in the longitudinal direction of the vertical frame member at open ends of the pair of groove side walls, wherein the elongated endplate of the screen is detachably fixed to the pair of concave grooves.